



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Vishnu K. Agarwal

Serial No.: 09/652,968

Filed: August 31, 2000

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING  
AGAINST OXIDATION OF A CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID  
DEVICE

§  
§ Group Art Unit: 2815  
§  
§ Examiner: José R. Diaz  
§  
§ Atty. Docket: 98-0616.12  
§  
§  
§  
§

Amdt  
7/B

6-27-01  
T. Flowers

FIRST AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE  
OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 14, 2000

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below:

6-14-01  
Date

*Trish Norman-Landry*  
Signature

Per the Examiner's restriction requirement in the Office Action of December 14, 2000, please amend the above application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claim to the form indicated below.

43. (Once amended) A method of passivating a multilayer conductive structure, comprising:
- layering a first conductive material;
  - introducing N<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> gas to said first conductive material;
  - releasing nitrogen from said gas with electromagnetic energy; and
  - layering a second conductive material over said first conductive material.

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